Vote No. 165

May 12, 1995, 10:01 a.m. Page S-6576 Temp. Record

INTERSTATE WASTE TRANSPORTATION/Cloture

SUBJECT: Interstate Transportation of Municipal Solid Waste Act of 1995 . . . S. 534. Specter motion to close debate.

ACTION: CLOTURE MOTION REJECTED, 50-47

SYNOPSIS: As reported, S. 534, the Interstate Transportation of Municipal Solid Waste Act of 1995, will allow States to place limits on the import of out-of-State municipal solid waste, will provide limited authority to States and municipalities to specify the destination sites for municipal solid wastes in their districts (flow control), and will reinstate the groundwater monitoring exemption for small municipal landfills (that exemption was reversed as a result of a Sierra Club lawsuit).

On May 10, 1995, Senator Specter sent to the desk, for himself and others, a motion to close debate on the bill.

NOTE: The motion to invoke cloture requires a three-fifths majority (60) vote of the Senate to succeed.

Those favoring the motion to invoke cloture contended:

If Senators want to see S. 534 become law, they cannot allow much further delay. The Senate will begin debate on the budget resolution next week. If S. 534 is not completed by that time, it will be withdrawn. We understand that some Senators would like to propose further amendments, but we urge them to keep in mind the danger that action would pose. Most of those Senators would like to see this bill pass, but if their amendments are accepted, the result might be to tip sentiment against the bill. Right now, we have a precarious majority of Senators favoring its passage. Especially given the time constraint under which we are operating, we should not risk upsetting this majority sentiment. Accordingly, we urge Senators to vote to close debate, to bring consideration of this bill to a rapid conclusion.

Those opposing the motion to close debate contended:

We appreciate our colleagues' views, but we have numerous proposals for improving this legislation. At this point, we do not want

(See other side)

YEAS (50)			NAYS (47)			NOT VOTING (3)	
Republicans Democrats (50 or 96%) (0 or 0%)		Republicans (2 or 4%)	Democrats (45 or 100%)		Republicans (2)	Democrats (1)	
							Abraham Ashcroft Bennett Bond Brown Burns Campbell Chafee Coats Cochran Cohen Coverdell Craig DeWine Dole Domenici Faircloth Frist Gramm Grams Grassley Gregg Hatch Hatfield Helms

VOTE NO. 165 MAY 12, 1995

to foreclose our opportunity for making those proposals. Though this issue may be novel to many Senators, it is of great financial concern to many of our constituents. We would not be serving those constituents well if we were to vote to close debate at this time. Therefore, we must oppose the motion to invoke cloture.